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Interview with Dr. Leon O. Jacobson, Mr. Kupferberg, his administrative assistant, Dr. John Rust, and Dr. George V. LeRoy in Dr. Jacobson's office at the University of Chicago Medical School by Marks and Miazga at about 1:30 pm on 4/16/74

Dr. Jacobson was asked what he knew about the injection of plutonium in people at the University of Chicago. He stated repeatedly that he knew very little about it, next to nothing. He did acknowledge that he was the Deputy Director and, for a brief period, Director of the Health Division of the Metallurgical Laboratory. However, he volunteered the information that Dr. J. Garrett Allen, who is now at Stanford University, would be more likely to have known something about those patients than Dr. Jacobson himself. He said that Dr. Allen was the only cleared clinician on the surgical ward where the injections were likely to have taken place. He failed to mention Dr. Schwartz whose name came up in other interviews. He did mention Dr. Cecil Watson but was dubious of Dr. Watson's involvement at the time of the injections. When we mentioned Dr. Nickson's name as the co-author of a paper dealing with the first two patients, Dr. Jacobson expressed the opinion that Nickson might also be a possibility as the physician who gave the injections.

We raised the question of whether Dr. Jacobson knew anything of informed consent or disclosure to the patients. To this he responded that he thought that disclosure in some form would have taken place, but he had no direct information that any such disclosure did in fact occur with those particular patients.

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Dr. Jacobson raised the question of whether the third patient was, in fact, a Billings Hospital patient. He felt that if the third patient had Hodgkin's Disease in accordance with the recollection of E. R. Russell, Dr. Jacobson would have definitely known of the patient since he had attended all Hodgkin's cases during that period. He also referred to the failure to find a hospital record or case number for that individual. In this, he cited Dr. LeRoy's efforts to find the hospital records on CHI-3 when Dr. Durbin carried on her search a couple of years ago. Dr. Jacobson expressed the opinion that that patient might have been injected at Michael Reese Hospital since a certain amount of research sponsored by the Manhattan Project did go on at Reese at that time. He didn't present any specific leads in connection with this but thought that the patient must have been at another hospital in the Chicago area and that Michael Reese would have been the most likely choice.

We inquired as to the availability of the records on the first 2 Chicago patients and were told that these were in storage in the Museum of Science and Industry where George LeRoy and Pat Durbin had access to them previously. We asked whether they could be retrieved and made available to us for our inspection on our return trip from the West Coast if our time permitted. However, we were discouraged from doing so. At one point, Dr. Jacobson said that he will look through the hospital records himself but later said that Dr. LeRoy would examine the records. Dr. Jacobson suggested that we call Dr. LeRoy later to find out what he might have learned from the hospital records.

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